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SUBJECT: PREVIEW OF THE 44TH MUNICH CONFERENCE ON SECURITY POLICY

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¶1. (U) The 44th annual Munich Conference on Security Policy, the "Davos" of the security policy world, is set to take place February 8-10, 2008 at the Bayerischer Hof hotel in Munich, Germany. Invited guests include heads of state, foreign ministers, defense ministers, parliamentary delegations and journalists from around the world.

¶2. (SBU) While this year's Conference is still a work in progress, the conference organizers have tentatively laid out the following agenda (Note: Speaking slots may shift, and not all speakers have confirmed their participation.):

Friday, February 8

- Opening Dinner (speech by Ukraine PM Tymoshenko)

Saturday, February 9

- Opening Speech: Turkish PM Erdogan - "Turkey's Foreign Policy and Security Interests"

- Panel Topic 1: "The Atlantic Alliance: Bucharest and Beyond" (Senator John McCain, NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer, German DefMin Franz Josef Jung, Slovenian FM Dimitrij Rupel)

- Panel Topic 2: "What Are The Roles Of Deterrence, Prevention And Nuclear Weapons In Future Strategies?" (Senator Joseph Lieberman, German FM Frank-Walter Steinmeier, French DefMin Herve Morin, IAEA DG Mohamed ElBaradei)

- Panel Topic 3: "A Challenge to European Stability: Future of the Western Balkans" (Macedonian President Branko Crvenkovski, EU Commissioner Benita Ferrero-Waldner, Romanian FM Adrian Cioroianu, Swedish FM Carl Bildt)

- Dinner hosted by Bavarian Minister-President Guenther Beckstein

Sunday, February 10

- Panel Topic 4: "Where is Russia going? A New Attempt for an All-European Security Order" (Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, EU Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy Javier Solana Madariaga, Moldovan President Vladimir Voronin)

- Panel Topic 5: "Asia: Building International Stability" (Indian NSA M.K. Narayanan, Chinese FM Yang Jiechi, Japanese FM Masahiko Koumura, Singapore DefMin Teo Chee Hean)

- Concluding Luncheon

¶3. (U) For more information on the 44th Conference and past conferences, visit: "<http://www.securityconference.de>".

¶4. (U) This report has been coordinated with Embassy Berlin.

¶5. (U) Previous reporting from Munich is available on our SIPRNET website at www.state.sgov.gov/p/eur/munich/ .

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